CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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CANADA

Views on the Conference on Disarmament's agenda and programme of work

Current Debate

With regard to the three issues currently the main focus for debate Canada's position is:

Nuclear Weapons

The CD must address nuclear disarmament. It should establish a mechanism for the substantive discussion of nuclear disarmament issues with a view to identifying if and when one or more issues should be the subject of negotiation.

Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty

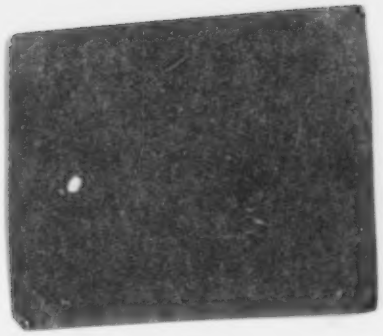
The CD should establish an Ad Hoc Committee to negotiate a ban on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, based on the Shannon Paper and the mandate therein.

Anti-Personnel Landmines

Canada does not object to the proposal by Chile, Finland and Poland to appoint a Special Coordinator on Anti-Personnel Landmines.

CD Agenda/Work Programme

In putting forward the above current positions, Canada maintains its views on the CD Agenda/Work Programme as set out in its overview paper of January 21, 1997:



Proposed Work Programme

1. Weapons of Mass Destruction/Nuclear Disarmament

   - Prohibition of the Production of Fissile Material for Nuclear Weapons or Other Nuclear Explosive Devices

   - Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States Against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons

2. Conventional Disarmament

   - Transparency in armaments

   - Guidelines for Conventional Arms Transfers

3. Outer Space

   - Legally-binding Instrument to Prevent the Weaponization of Outer Space

4. Consideration and adoption of annual report and any other report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly of the United Nations